20 YEARS!
1987-2007
CFN
1066
Superpowers
The Green Lama • Black Terror

Superpowers: Past, Present, & Future

It appears that 2007 is a great year for Golden Age heroes! For their upcoming series ***Superpowers,*** Dynamite Entertainment is looking to comics' past not only for inspiration, but for its cast: this series features an array of Golden Age heroes, revitalized for the 21st Century.

Oddly enough, ***Superpowers #0*** should reach comic shops at almost the same time as Image's ***Next Issue Project*** (which offers the next issue of cancelled Golden Age books, as created by today's talents) and Marvel's ***The Twelve*** (a contemporary series starring some of Marvel's forgotten Golden Age heroes). Any theories regarding the sudden renewal in interest in Golden Age concepts? "Unlike the 80's revival that happened a few years ago, this seems to have no clear reason why it should all happen at once. There are forces working beyond us here!" *Alex Ross* said with a laugh. "In a weird way, it's almost like everything else has been explored and tried and these characters and concepts lurked out there yearning for attention."

"If you're going to go anywhere for new sources of inspiration, you would almost by default start at the beginning," *Joe Rybandt*, Dynamite Editorial and Marketing, added, "and this is, in essence, the beginning alongside Golden Age DC or Golden Age Marvel."

"What's bizarre about all of it is that I can't completely explain why I am enjoying it as much as I am, because of course I wasn't a kid growing up reading these adventures nor was I getting reprints of these adventures," Ross continued. "These are things that I am largely exploring now, but had always had visual sight of in various historical matter on comics, like even just images from ***Steranko's History of Comic Books***—pointing out some of these lost, obscure characters. Maybe part of the excitement is that they seem to typify archetypes that we all recognize clearly from existing, triumphant characters who have lasted for so many decades."

Considering Ross and Krueger's success on ***Justice,*** they could have played with pretty much any superstar characters they wanted—so what led them to choose public-domain Golden Age heroes? "It's a chance to do something new, to define characters that no one really knows, but also a chance to continue working on characters that have a history in the comics industry," *Jim Krueger* said. "It's sort of the best of both worlds. The more I write these characters, the more fun they become to me. I mean, they're really great. The Black Terror. How can anyone *not* know and love this guy? He's like a goth pirate super hero. The Green Lama, The Flame, the Devil, Samson.... these are all bad-ass characters who fight crime and much more.

"Perhaps we were inspired by them, and that's why Alex and I are fighting for them; it's a crime that no ones knows about these heroes that have inspired the creation of so many others."

While Ross and Krueger are writing ***Superpowers,*** the concept was actually developed before they came on board. "The entire project has been in the works for well over three years," Rybandt explained. "The idea started with Dynamite Publisher *Nick Barrucci,* and then we worked out the framework with Alex and Jim. During that process it evolved and mutated and finally became what the readers will see starting with issue #0. The 'stars' were assembled along the way, but Alex helped us pick and choose who would be featured and appear in the series. Jim also had a few favorites we'll be including along the way."

While the stars are Golden Age heroes, Krueger stresses that it's *not* a Golden Age series. "There are moments of it that speak to the past of these characters, but really, this is all contemporary. It's right now, in our world, dealing with contemporary concerns vs. all that 'Hitler Must Die!' crap. (Although, I'm not saying Hitler needing to die is crap. He really *did* need to die. He was a very bad man.)"

Has Ross done any major redesigns on any of his Golden Age stars? "I'm sticking closely wherever it works best for modern audiences. Mostly you have to make things seem like a decent enough costume to wear to a costume party," Ross joked. "Some characters and designs do *not* age well over time. A lot of guys with full costumes and bare legs are a good example of that problem."

What brings these diverse heroes together? "It begins with Fighting Yank being haunted by a ghost who reveals that Fighting Yank's greatest act of heroism was in service to utter and almost indefinable evil," Krueger explained. "I don't want to give too much away, but this story deals with the Fighting Yank's regret and him setting the world right again with the help of heroes who hate him because he betrayed them.

"This series sort of takes that whole idea of inter-team angst to a whole new level. Because pretty much everyone on the team wants Yank dead for what he did to them. This first series is also about collecting these heroes together and bringing their stories into conflict with each other."

Rather than just recreating the past, Krueger and Ross are determined to put their own distinctive marks on these Golden Age heroes. "As far as the characters go, there is a sense of transformation that they go through. So, to a certain extent, Alex, Dynamite, and I are making them our characters. They are being changed from what they originally were," Krueger said.

"Because of their public domain status, it can't really be about *just* the characters, but about a story that really encapsulates what they, as a whole, could mean to the world. I have no doubt that other creators will use these characters in the future, but our story is unique, our take on the characters, I think, is unique."

Any standout character as far as Ross is concerned? "I'm liking pretty much everybody and the way that they are being reinterpreted. I think the character most people will grow to love is the 'Devil character; what we will reveal of him over time will be the most satisfying and captivating for both myself and readers. He is the costume that, I've honestly touched up the least. To be fair to all the original creators, we're looking closely at the original material and then extrapolating a creative burst given to the impression of the character that would transform them ever so slightly to show that they've been effectively reborn."

Will any classic villains return to confront these heroes? "While not in the first arc, we *will* be exploring the villains and their place in the new world. Issue #0 *does* feature some classics though… including the Claw!" Rybandt said.

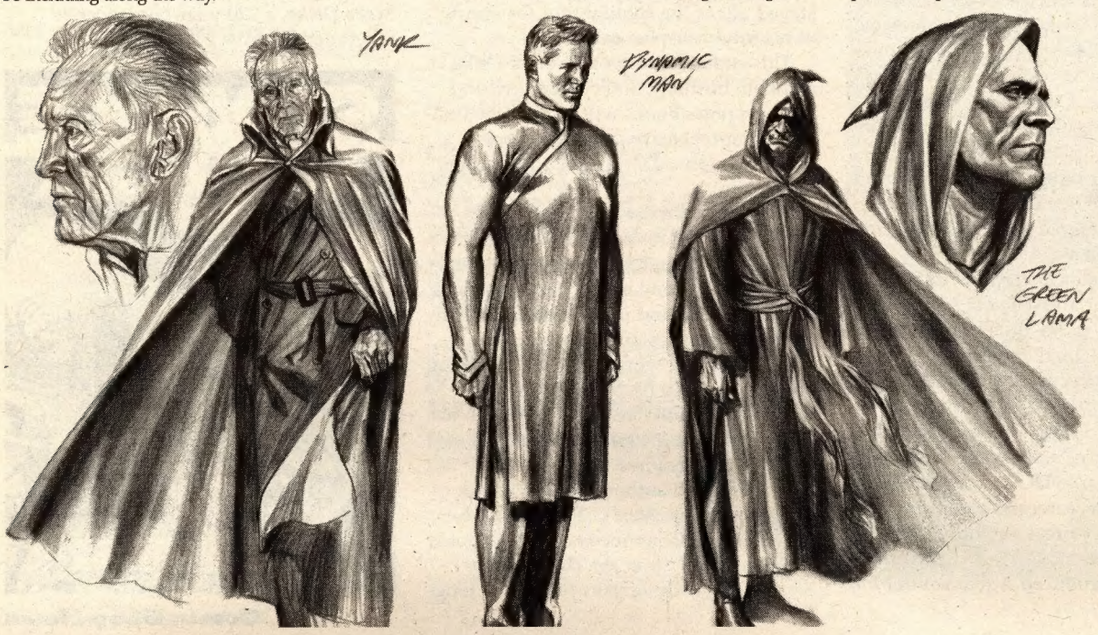
Are Ross and Krueger working ahead on the project, or are they waiting for art to come in on the early issues before tackling the later scripts? "It's a little bit by the seat of our pants," Ross said. "We've tried to plot ahead of the curve as we have on previous projects but ***Superpowers*** in particular was a train that needed to get going at a certain time, and we're thinking ahead but working closer to the bone than we have on pretty much every previous project Jim and I have done."

While fans enjoy Ross's storytelling, it's his stunning art that has made his reputation—so is there any chance that he'll be able to supply some art for each issue of the series, in addition to the covers? "Every opportunity for Alex to illustrate inside or outside the book we look at, and decide based on Alex's schedule," Rybandt said. "We went into ***Superpowers #0*** not planning on Alex doing any interiors, but we came away with two fully-painted pieces , so we're beyond pleased that worked out as it did!"

Advance response to the preview art and press coverage has been quite positive; any chance that might inspire Ross and Krueger to continue beyond their initial six-issue arc? "The current story-line that we have building up and reintroducing the characters is one thing that we are in the midst of," Ross said, "but, as I am with all projects I work on, I am always thinking about the one immediately following and so much of the ideas that inspire me currently use the characters and further characters we've not even brought on stage yet as major centerpieces to the next big story arc."

Superpowers #0, a $1 comic from Dynamite Entertainment, is scheduled for late December release; the first issue follows in January.

by Cliff Biggers



Courtesy your friendly neighborhood comics outlet!

CSNsider

•Great news for fans of *James Robinson's* superlative superhero series ***Starman:*** DC is repackaging the series in hardcover beginning in the spring of 2008. ***The Complete Starman Volume One,*** a 448-page, will most likely include the contents of the first two trade paperbacks (featuring stunning art by *Tony Harris & Wade Von Grawbadger)* along with bonus material (although we should point out that the precise contents haven't been announced at press-time).

•Less than a week after its release, Marvel is going back to press with a second printing of ***Messiah Complex #1,*** featuring variant cover art. Look for it next week.

•Variant cover alert: DC has tapped comics legend *Neal Adams* to supply the 1-for-10 variant cover for *Frank Miller, Jim Lee, & Scott Williams'* ***All Star Batman & Robin, The Boy Wonder #8.*** This is a change from the originally solicited *Frank Miller* wraparound variant; look for it in comic shops next week.

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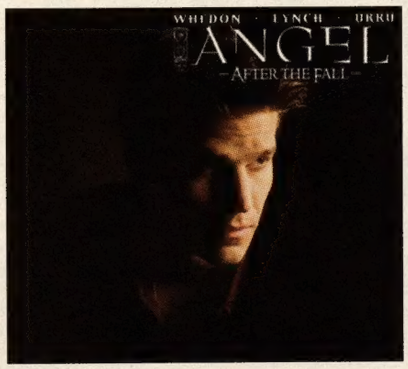
Produced by Comic Shop News in cooperation with Matt Brady and newsarama.com



•The book is just reaching comic shops, but IDW's ***Angel: After the Fall #1*** has already sold out of its first printing. To fill the continuing demand, the publisher announced a second printing even before the first issue went on sale. Look for it in early December.

•***Ultimates 3 #1*** is the latest Marvel title to receive a coveted 1-for-100 variant cover. Completists, start making plans now!

•***Green Arrow/Black Canary: The Wedding HC,*** slated for January 2008 release, has been taken off the schedule, DC will resolicit the book at a later date.

•Readers who were surprised to discover the identity of an infiltrating Skrull in ***New Avengers: The Illuminati #5*** now understand why ***Secret Invasion: The Infiltration*** is going to be a *really* big event. Marvel has confirmed that the following titles will play a major role in the developing storyline: ***Avengers: The Initiative Annual #1, Mighty Avengers #7, New Avengers #s 38-39, Ms. Marvel #s 25-27,*** and ***Captain Marvel #s 4-5.***

•New content alert: *Chuck Dixon's* story in ***Batman & the Outsiders #2*** will now follow Batman, Catwoman, Metamorpho, Grace, Katana, Martian Manhunter, and Thunder as they investigate the appearance of a strange Omac-like entity at Jardine Tower in Central City. This issue, which features art by *Carlos Rodriguez & Bit,* will also introduce the newest recruit to the Outsiders team... but she may not be around for long, if some of her teammates have their way!

•Aquaman creator *Paul Norris* died in early November at the age of 93. "Paul Norris was one of the quiet, dedicated artists who sustained comics through the decades," Paul Levitz, DC Comics President & Publisher, said. "His most important contribution to DC was long before I was born, but it was my pleasure to reconnect him to DC and Aquaman." Norris began his career as a newspaper cartoonist before breaking into comics in 1940; in 1941, he moved to DC and shortly after that introduced Aquaman in ***More Fun Comics #73.*** After his stay on the Aquaman feature ended, he moved on to other features including The Sandman and Johnny Quick. Later in his career, he worked on ***Flash Gordon, Secret Agent X-9,*** and ***Jungle Jim*** comic strips before taking over ***Brick Bradford,*** which he drew from 1952 until 1987.

•Viz continues their supersizing of some of their most popular manga series with the release of ***Ruruoni Kenshin Big Edition Volume One,*** a hefty 584-page 6" x 9" trade paperback collecting the first three manga-sized editions in one volume, complete with partial color. Look for it in mid-December.

Ditko Done Right

One of comics' most enigmatic figures is the superlative *Steve Ditko,* one of the field's most talented creators. While his contributions to the art form (including Spider-Man, Captain Atom, Hawk and Dove, Doctor Strange, and the Question) are well known, the creator himself has stayed out of the spotlight for the entirity of his fifty-year-plus career.

This summer, in recognition of Ditko's eightieth birthday, author *Blake Bell* and Fantagraphics Books will present the first-ever comprehensive critical retrospective/biographical study of Ditko and his life in comics.

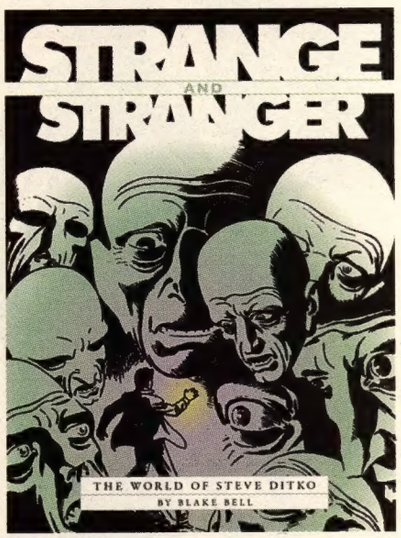
"From his earliest days in the 1950s, working for the notorious low-budget Charlton Comics, *Steve Ditko* broke every convention in comics, with his innovative special designs and imaginatively hallucinatory landscapes of Dr. Strange, the almost plebian earthiness of The Amazing Spider-Man, and his black-and-white views on morality and justice through his uncompromising vigilante of the late 1960s, Mr. A (inspired by the work of Atlas Shrugged author and Objectivist philosopher *Ayn Rand*)," Fantagraphics writes in their announcement of the book.

Strange and Stranger: The World of Steve Ditko is designed to appeal to long-time comics fans, to *Steve Ditko* aficionados, and to those who are unfamiliar with the creator or his work. "For the non-comic-book reader," author *Blake Bell* explained, "we tell the narrative of *Steve Ditko,* the artist, from humble beginnings in Johnstown Pennsylvania; to the dizzying heights of co-creating Spider-Man; to the spectacular Howard Roark-like determination, and tribulations, in bringing his personal and philosophical vision to a recalcitrant audience. There's a fantastic, dramatic storyline running through Ditko's career; the artist having walked away from the Spider-Man franchise (and the billions it was to generate) as it was reaching the height of its popularity. What price did Ditko pay, and what was the impact on his work?"

Those already familiar with Ditko's multi-faceted career are in for a treat as well. "Fans of Ditko, and comic art, will not be able to put the book down," Bell continued, "as we explode many of the myths surrounding key moments in Ditko's career, as well as present reams of rare and unpublished Ditko artwork. For the comic art scholar, we also break down the 'hows' of Steve Ditko as a great sequential storyteller, dissecting his work in depth for the first time, also with analysis and commentary by some of the most skilled and articulate comic creators of the day."

Unfortunately, the one thing ***Strange and Stranger*** will *not* include is commentary from Ditko himself; alas, the comics legend (who prefers to let his work speak for itself) declined to play any part in putting the book together. Nevertheless, this will be the most comprehensive look at Ditko's career ever produced, and will be accompanied by a great deal of Ditko art, much of which has rarely (if ever) been seen until now.

Strange and Stranger: The World of Steve Ditko, a 220-page hardcover, is scheduled for June 2008 release.



Top Comics for December

AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #545

. Michael Straczynski (W); Joe Quesada (A)

Marvel SEP072177 $3.99)

What's the Scoop?

Learn exactly how far Peter Parker will go in order to find just one more day of happiness with those closest to him...

Why Should You Care?

Big changes are coming in the Peter Parker status quo, including a major change in his relationship with Mary Jane... and this issue reveals just what those changes are and how they come about!

BADGER SAVES THE WORLD #1

Mike Baron (W); Kevin Caron (A)

(IDW OCT073600 $3.99)

What's the Scoop?

The zany, offbeat, mentally disturbed hero returns in an all-new adventure—and this time, he's thinking *global*, not *local*, insofar as heroics are concerned!

Why Should You Care?

The return of this fondly remembered 1980's hero would be news enough—but the fact that his new series is written by creator/mastermind *Mike Baron* makes this a must-read.

BAT LASH #1

Peter Brandvold & Sergio Aragones (W); John Severin (A)

(DC OCT070133 $2.99)

What's the Scoop?

"Will he save the West—or ruin it?" This was the catchphrase for this sensitive, irreverent, *Maverick*-meets-*The-Mod-Squad* Western series when it debuted in the almost forty years ago—and it's just as appropriate now that Bat Lash is returning for an all-new six-part adventure.

Why Should You Care?

Bat Lash creator *Sergio Aragones* is masterminding (and co-writing) this miniseries—and he's joining forces with comics legend *John Severin*, one of the finest Western comics illustrators living, to make this long-overdue return a visual treat.

COUNTDOWN: ARENA #1

(DC OCT070118 $3.99)

COUNTDOWN: ARENA #2

(DC OCT070120 $3.99)

COUNTDOWN: ARENA #3

(DC OCT070122 $3.99)

COUNTDOWN: ARENA #4

Keith Champagne (W); Scott McDaniel & Andy Owens (A)

(DC OCT070124 $3.99)

What's the Scoop?

Monarch finalizes his plan against the Monitors—and to make it succeed, he hopes to assemble the most powerful superteam in the Multiverse. To determine who makes the cut, he brings together some of the mightiest heroes from the 52 universes (including characters from *Superman: Red Son, DC: The New Frontier, Batman: Gotham by Gaslight, JSA: Liberty Files, Justice League of America: The Nail,* and other worlds), forcing them to battle to the death so that he can assemble his own "all-winners' squad."

Why Should You Care?

This weekly event will play a vital role in the upcoming *Final Crisis*—but the best reason for adding it to your list is that it gives you a chance to enjoy a multiverse-cage-match-to-the-death featuring some of comics' most famous heroes (although not necessarily the versions you're most familiar with!).

COUNTDOWN: RAY PALMER—SUPERWOMAN/BATWOMAN #1

Jimmy Palmiotti & Justin Gray (W); Randy Green (A)

(DC OCT070129 $2.99)

COUNTDOWN: SEARCH FOR RAY PALMER—RED SON #1

Alan Burnett (W); Travel Foreman (A)

(DC OCT070128 $2.99)

What's the Scoop?

The search for Ray Palmer takes the Challengers to a pair of fan-favorite Elseworlds realities: one, a world of gender-reversal, and the other, a world of Cold War political polarization.

Why Should You Care?

Any opportunity to revisit two of the most popular Elseworlds in DC history is cause for celebration, as far as we're concerned!

DARKNESS #1

Phil Hester (W); Michael Broussard (A)

(Image OCT072034 $2.99)

What's the Scoop?

In the aftermath of the events of *First Born,* Jackie Estacado has relocated to Central America... but he's about to discover that deadly trouble follows him wherever he goes!

Why Should You Care?

A new location, new challenges, a new creative team—and a new commitment to on-time publishing (hoorah!)—makes this a great jumping-on point.

END LEAGUE #1

Rick Remender (W); Mat Broome (A)

(Dark Horse OCT070010 $2.99)

What's the Scoop?

The last remaining supermen and superwomen set out on a deadly quest in search of the Hammer of Thor—humanity's last hope for survival.

Why Should You Care?

Lord of the Rings meets *The Watchmen* in this iconic adventure that captures the larger-than-life majesty of the hero's quest.

GREEN LANTERN #25

Geoff Johns (W); Ivan Reis, Ethan Van Sciver, & Oclair Albert (A)

(DC SEP070160 $4.99)

GREEN LANTERN #26

Geoff Johns (W); Mike McKone & Andy Lanning (A)

(DC OCT070171 $2.99)

What's the Scoop?

"The Sinestro Corps War" concludes in a double-sized anniversary issue—and the outcome will have a major impact on the future of the Green Lantern Corps. But there's no rest for the weary, as the Alpha-Lantern project is launched, paving the way for the Green Lanterns' role in the upcoming *Final Crisis.*

Why Should You Care?

"The Sinestro Corps War" has propelled *Green Lantern* to a central role in the DC Universe—and "The Alpha Lanterns" will keep the momentum going as the Corps moves into a central role in DC's big 2008 event.

JENNA JAMESON'S SHADOW HUNTER #0

Christina Z (W); Mukesh Singh (A)

(Virgin OCT073865 25¢)

What's the Scoop?

One woman leaves her normal life behind as she embarks on a metaphysical odyssey as she explores her connection to a mythological feminine force as old as time.

Why Should You Care?

While adult film star *Jenna Jameson* lends her name and likeness to this series, it's *Witchblade* scribe *Christina* Z who has transformed that concept into a series that combines the supernatural adventure of Top Cow with the strong characterization and epic storylines of CrossGen.

JUSTICE LEAGUE OF AMERICA #16

Dwayne McDuffie (W); Joe Benitez & Victor Llamas (A)

(DC OCT070176 $2.99)

What's the Scoop?

Thought "The Lightning Saga" was the final word on all things Flash? Think again! There's another Flash returning in the DC Universe... but what's *she* doing on this Earth?

Why Should You Care?

Readers who thought that *Brad Meltzer* was irreplaceable are having to re-evaluate now that *Dwayne McDuffie* has made *JLA* the best superteam series on the stands.

JUSTICE SOCIETY OF AMERICA #11

Geoff Johns & Alex Ross (W); Dale Eaglesham & Ruy Jose (A)

(DC OCT070174 $2.99)

What's the Scoop?

Jakeem Thunder returns. More legacy heroes move to center stage. And another face familiar to the *Kingdom Come* Superman makes his presence known.

Why Should You Care?

This isn't just some casual *Kingdom Come* tie-in—*Geoff Johns* and *KC* co-creator *Alex Ross* are working together to ensure that this series comes across as a true sequel to that landmark Elseworlds tale

Continued on page 6

BRYAN TALBOT '07
A LEGEND RETURNS
11-28-2007
DARE

SCRIPT
GARTH ENNIS
ART
GARY ERSKINE
Virgin
COMICS
DAN DARE

that now occupies a central role in the DC multiverse.

LONE RANGER AND TONTO #1

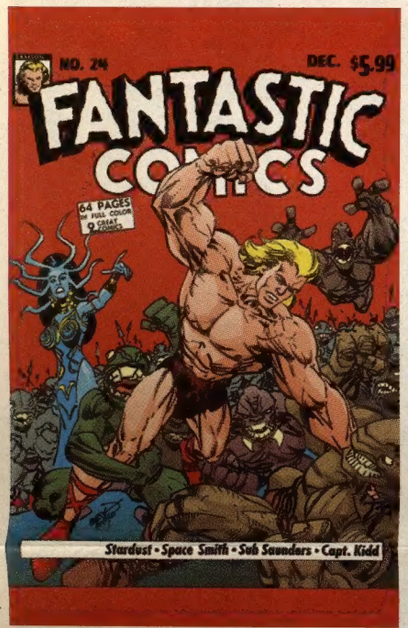
Brett Matthews & Jon Abrams (W)
Mario Guevara (A)
(Dynamite SEP073510 $4.99)

What's the Scoop?

There's something dark and murderous moving through the frontier, and it's up to the Lone Ranger and Tonto to put a stop to it—and that's just what they do in this standalone oneshot!

Why Should You Care?

Missed out on the ***Lone Ranger*** excitement so far? There's no better jumping-on point than a standalone oneshot that epitomizes Dynamite's take on the classic Western defenders of justice.



NEXT ISSUE PROJECT #1

Erik Larsen, Howard Chaykin Tom Yeates, Bill Sienkiewicz, Mike Allred, Fred Hembeck, Ashley Wood, & others (W/A)
(Image OCT071967 $5.99)

What's the Scoop?

Imagine finding a never-before-seen extra issue of a long-gone Golden Age series—and then discovering that it features work by some of the field's most prestigious names. Well, that's almost what you'll find here, as Image has enlisted the efforts of an all-star list of creators to contribute to the continuation of a Golden Age title.

Why Should You Care?

With names like *Erik Larsen, Howard Chaykin Tom Yeates, Bill Sienkiewicz, Mike Allred, Fred Hembeck, Ashley Wood* involved in this series, how can you resist?

NORTHLANDERS #1

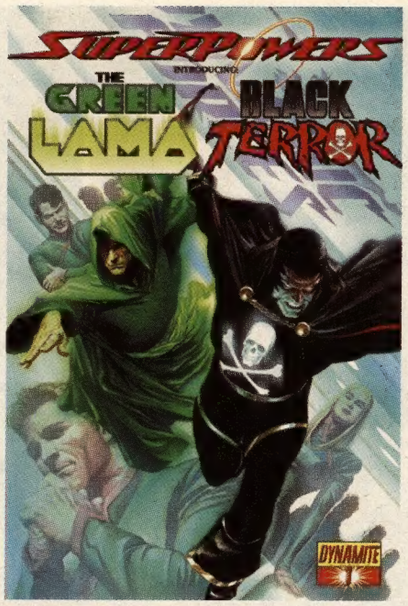
Brian Wood (W); Davide Gianfelice (A)
(Vertigo/DC OCT070241 $2.99)

What's the Scoop?

Welcome to the world of 1000 AD—a world you'll see through the eyes of Sven, an exiled Viking prince who must abandon his decadent Constantinople lifestyle and return to the land of his birth to claim his vast inheritance.

Why Should You Care?

Don't think Viking Prince or Hagar the Horrible or Beowulf—this is a complex real-world look at a world in transition as seen through the eyes of one of the most misunderstood of all medieval powers, the Vikings. *Brian Wood* has abandoned the cliches and stereotypes to create a compelling look at the world a millennium ago.



SUPERPOWERS #0

Alex Ross & Jim Krueger (W); Stephen Sadowski (A)
(Dynamite OCT073386 $1.00)

What's the Scoop?

A group of classic Golden Age WWII heroes are brought into the modern age, where they are forced to come to terms with the ghosts of their past... and present. So where have these heroes been for the past sixty years?

Why Should You Care?

Alex Ross & Jim Krueger, the team responsible for Marvel's ***Earth X*** saga and DC's ***Justice,*** offer their take on some of the Golden Age's most fondly remembered—and long out-of-print—heroes in this original superteam saga. And if that's not enough to add this one to your list, here's the clincher: *Alex Ross* supplies the covers, the character designs, and select interior art!

ULTIMATE IRON MAN II #1

Orson Scott Card (W); Pasqual Ferry (A)
(Marvel OCT072070 $2.99)

What's the Scoop?

The next chapter in the Ultimate Tony Stark's life begins here, as the young genius refines and perfects his amazing armor. But what role will James Rhodes play in Tony Stark's plans?

Why Should You Care?

At long last, Hugo, Nebula, and World Fantasy Award winner *Orson Scott Card* delivers the next arc in his exploration of the life of the Ultimates' complex armored hero.

ULTIMATES 3 #1

Jeph Loeb (W); Joe Madureira (A)
(Marvel OCT072074 $2.99)

What's the Scoop?

A year has passed since the events of ***Ultimates*** 2—and to say that a lot has changed would be an understatement! So who are the Ultimates? Why are they no longer working for SHIELD? What secret is about to tear the team apart? And what role does Ultimate Venom play in this saga?

Why Should You Care?

The all-star team of *Jeph Loeb & Joe Madureira* pick up where Millar & Hitch left off, paving the way for the Ultiverse-shaking ***Ultimatum,*** which launches next year.

WORLD WAR HULK: AFTERSMASH

Greg Pak (W); Rafa Sandoval (A)
(Marvel SEP072202 $3.99)

WORLD WAR HULK: WARBOUND #1

Greg Pak (W); Leonard Kirk (A)
(Marvel OCT072103 $2.99)

What's the Scoop?

World War Hulk may be over, but the effects of the Hulk's actions continue to reverberate through the Marvelverse in this story featuring the Warbound, the Renegades, Heroes for Hire, Iron Man, and many more. Meanwhile, the Warbound-hating human race is about to learn that having a savage alien monster or two on their side might not be such a bad thing after all...

Why Should You Care?

How does the Marvelverse recover from the Hulk's actions? How does it deal with the presence of the Hulk's allies in his quest for vengeance against the heroes of the Earth? These books explore the aftermath of ***World War Hulk...*** and Marvel promises that there *will* be more smashing.

WORMWOOD: CALAMARI RISING #1

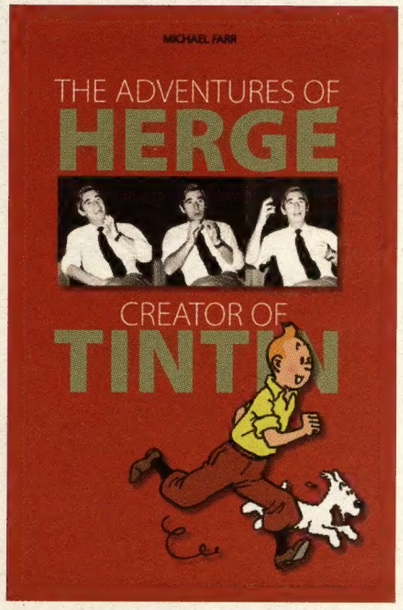
Ben Templesmith (W/A)
(IDW OCT073602 $3.99)

What's the Scoop?

Just when Wormwood thought that he could enjoy a quiet drink without worrying about the world coming to an end, the Brotherhood of the Calamari decide to mess everything up. They've tracked Wormwood across a thousand million dimensional possibilities... and they don't intend to carry out any random acts of kindness!

Why Should You Care?

Ben Templesmith is already recognized as one of the field's hottest artists, but this series shows off his impressive writing skills as well!



FYI:

Great Additions to Your Reference Library

ADVENTURES OF HERGE, CREATOR OF TINTIN HC

(OCT073669 $29.95)

Michael Farr offers readers a look at the life of the man best known for the boy reporter that he created in a series of internationally acclaimed graphic novels.

ALTER EGO #74

(TwoMorrows OCT073927 $6.95)

Roy Thomas celebrates *Stan Lee's* 85th birthday with this tribute issue featuring interviews with the Man himself, illustrated by primo art from *Jack Kirby, John Romita, Joe Maneely, Dick Ayers, Bill Everett, John Buscema,* and many, many more.

MARVEL GRAPHIC NOVELS & RELATED PUBLICATIONS 1965-2005 HC

(McFarland OCT074026 $75.00)

Robert G. Weiner has assembled a comprehensive checklist and guide to Marvel graphic novels, trade paperbacks, and novels, including synopses, publishing history, and more.

MODERN MASTERS SC VOL 15: MARK SCHULTZ

(TwoMorrows OCT073846 $14.95)

Spotlighting the career of the ***Cadillacs & Dinosaurs*** mastermind who is currently writing ***Prince Valiant.***

VANISHING POINT: PERSPECTIVE FOR COMICS SC

(Impact OCT074046 $19.99)

If you ever hope to be a comic book artist, you have to understand what perspective is and how to use it. *Jason Cheeseman-Meyer* makes it seem easy with this handy guidebook to perspective illustration and its dramatic impact.

YOUR KID'S WASTING HIS TIME!
MY SUPER-SON DOESN'T NEED HELP!
OH, YEAH? MY SON WILL PROVE HE'S BETTER THAN YOURS—
WITHOUT SUPER-POWERS!

Collected Cool:

December's Best Reprint Volumes

BATMAN/SUPERMAN: SAGA OF THE SUPER SONS TP

(DC SEP070222 $19.99)

For the first time, the complete saga of the Super Sons is collected in one volume! Features stories from the pages of ***World's Finest #215-216, 221-222, 224, 228, 230, 231, 233, 238, 242, & 263*** and ***Elseworlds 80-Page Giant #1.***

EC ARCHIVES: CRIME SUSPENSTORIES HC VOL 1

(Gemstone OCT073542 $49.95)

Featuring intense crime drama by *Al Feldstein, Johnny Craig, Harvey Kurtzman. Wally Wood, Jack Kamen, Graham Ingels, Jack Davis, George Roussos* and others, originally published during EC's glory days of 1950 and 1951.

MARVEL MASTERWORKS
GOLDEN AGE
HUMAN TORCH
VOLUME 2
THE HUMAN TORCH
BATTLING THE SUB-MARINER
HUMAN TORCH COMICS Nos. 5b-8
CARL BURGOS, BILL EVERETT, BASIL WOLVERTON, MICKEY SPILLANE, RAY HOULIHAN & ART GATES

MARVEL MASTERWORKS GOLDEN AGE HUMAN TORCH HC VOL 02

(Marvel OCT072169 $59.99)

Vicariously experience the excitement of the Golden Age with this red-hot volume collecting the Golden Age ***Human Torch #s 5B-8*** (yes, there *were* two #5's!).

MOUSE GUARD HC VOL 01 LTD ED B&W

(Archaia OCT073262 $99.99)

One thousand copy black and white limited edition hardcover produced in the same 12" x 12" size as *David Petersen's* original art.

SAVAGE SWORD OF CONAN VOL 1 TP

(Dark Horse AUG070123 $17.95)

500+ pages in glorious black and white reprinting Marvel's hit B&W ***Savage Sword of Conan*** magazine. These stories, originally produced for black and white reproduction, feature ink washes, shading, and other black and white effects designed to highlight the art—and the mature-readers storylines are closer in tone to *Robert E. Howard's* original prose.

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BATMAN AND BLACK CANARY
SAFE LANDING! THE SKYJACKER DOESN'T KNOW WE'RE ON HIS TRAIL!
THE 3-MILLION DOLLAR SKY!

SHOWCASE PRESENTS BRAVE & BOLD BATMAN TEAM UPS TP VOL 2

(DC OCT070206 $16.99)

Reprinting ***Brave & Bold #s 88-109***, featuring classic Batman team-up adventures by *Bob Haney, Neal Adams, Jim Aparo, Nick Cardy*, and others.

SHOWCASE PRESENTS JUSTICE LEAGUE OF AMERICA TP VOL 03

(DC OCT070207 $16.99)

Collecting the Silver Age ***Justice League of America #s 37-60***, including the final *Mike Sekowsky*-illustrated issues.

Check 'Em Out:

Books You Should Be Reading

ACTION COMICS #860

(DC OCT070157 $2.99)

Now *this* is the *real* Legion of Super-Heroes! *Geoff Johns* continues the best Legion story in comics today, with stunning visuals by *Gary Frank*.

DARKMAN #1

(Dynamite OCT073390 $3.50)

Sam Raimi's cinematic hero returns in a new series that takes place five years after his film exploits ended. You've seen Raimi present his film version of a comic book icon—now enjoy this comic book version of his screen hero!

DOCTOR WHO CLASSICS #1

(IDW OCT073579 $3.99)

Now that ***Doctor Who*** is a hit once again, what better time to relive the comic book exploits of earlier versions of the Good Doctor? This issue presents classic Fourth Doctor tales by *Pat Mills, John Wagner, & Dave Gibbons.*

DRAWING FROM LIFE #2

(Image OCT071963 $3.50)

Jim Valentino presents eight brand new autobiographical stories, including his first-ever tales of the early days of Image Comics!

EXILES #100

(Marvel OCT072146 $3.99)

The Exiles end their reality-hopping adventures with this hundredth issue... or do they? What about these rumors of an all-new Exiles series spinning off from this series finale? Find out here!

GLISTER #3

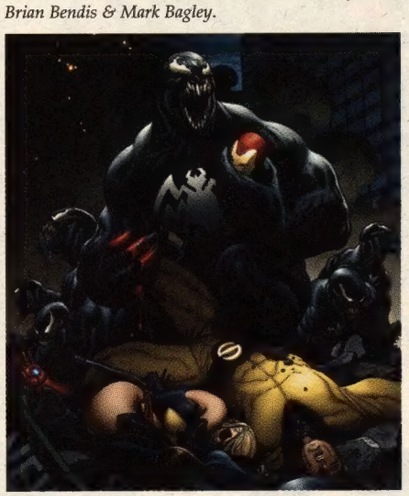
(Image OCT072009 $5.99)

Glister crosses into faerie territory in pursuit of lost laundry, only to find she has to retrieve someone much closer to her heart in the latest installment of this charming, quirky all-ages series by *Andi Watson.*

MIGHTY AVENGERS #7

(Marvel SEP072215 $2.99)

After months of delays, ***Mighty Avengers*** gets back on schedule with a Venom-fest courtesy of *Brian Bendis & Mark Bagley.*



SPIRIT #12

(DC SEP070206 $2.99)

Darwyn Cooke says farewell to the Spirit with this issue. If you haven't checked out his stylish, masterful take on Eisner's hero, here's your last chance; if you have, then you know why you should be reading this issue.

TWELVE #0

(Marvel OCT072127 $2.99)

Reprinting classic tales featuring the characters that *J. Michael Straczynski & Chris Weston* are resurrecting in their new series, along with character sketches and preview pages for that series. Get to know the old-timers before they become next year's new stars!

Hot Commodities:

December's Hottest Merchandising & Collectibles

FABLES STATUE: SHER KHAN AND ROSE RED

(DC Direct MAY070246 $195.00)

Ace sculptor *Jim Maddox* captures the look of *Mark Buckingham's* art with this eye-catching statue inspired by the hit Vertigo series.

FRANK FRAZETTA MOON MAID STATUE

(Dark Horse SEP070107 $175.00)

One of *Frank Frazetta's* most memorable pieces of fantasy art is interpreted in three dimensions by sculptor Tim Bruckner, whose work was personally approved by Frazetta himself.

SUPERGIRL DELUXE VINYL STATUE BY KOTOBUKIYA

(DC Direct MAY070266 $79.99)

Kotobukiya presents a remarkable piece of good-girl sculpture in an affordable package. This vinyl statue is manufactured to order, so grab a copy while you can!

SUPERMAN "S" SHIELD NEON SIGN

(DC Direct MAY070264 $395.00)

You've seen it in store windows—now you can see it in your own home! Previously available as a retailer-only item, this 20" tall x 27" wide neon sign is now offered on a special one-time basis to discerning collectors.

LEGION of SUPER-HEROES®

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ART BY FRANCIS MANAPUL

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